

Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC

[10/30/2020]



BI-WEEKLY DEAN'S MESSAGE

Dear USC Dentistry Community:

Through these ongoing trials and tribulations, I am being constantly reminded of just how many people really stepped up and showed their strength, resilience and leadership in ways unimaginable. They say the strongest steel is forged by intense heat, and the ways in which many of you have risen to this unprecedented challenge proves it. One individual who really made an impact was USC's Facilities Management Services **Mr. Hector Caballero**, without whom I can say we couldn't have re-opened our operations. And that's not hyperbole. Mr. Caballero was instrumental in getting our school and mobile clinics set up with the proper HVAC systems that were essential for healthy learning and patient care. He was undeterred by obstacles and handled all of

our questions and concerns with grace and humility. Many times, these efforts can be taken for granted, so I thought it was important to acknowledge him for his hard work and dedication in supporting our restart. The Trojan Dental Family extends its sincere gratitude to Mr. Caballero.

As I've mentioned, our **Community Oral Health Programs team** has been working tirelessly to get our operations back up and running. You might remember we held our first mobile clinic event since the pandemic began at Foothill Unity Center in Monrovia, Calif., a few weeks ago and began treating homeless women and their children at Hope Gardens in Sylmar, Calif. Both took a great deal of work to ensure safe, healthy treatment for faculty, students and patients, alike. This week, we continue marching forward, completing treatment at another mobile clinic event at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Pasadena. I'm also really pleased to announce that we're returning to treat patients up to 21 years old with our partners at QueensCare once again, beginning Nov. 2, at the New Academy of Arts and Sciences. Additionally, we are preparing to return to Hollenbeck Palms in the near future, with a mobile clinic stationed there on the retirement community's campus. As I've mentioned before, we had to entirely re-imagine our mobile clinics, adding plastic barriers, installing HEPA air scrubbers, etc., to ensure that, once we returned to treatment, it would all be done in the most safe and healthy manner. I'd like to thank **Drs. Camille Nishikawa** and **John Morzov** for their efforts with getting our QueensCare mobile unit up and running and **Dr. Lisa Hou, Ms. Irma Ulloa** and **Mr. Edwin Salgado** for their efforts with Hollenbeck. And of course, thank you to **Dr. Roseann Mulligan** for your outstanding leadership throughout it all.

You might have seen last week that our **Office of External Relations and Student Life** launched a brand new exclusive social media network for the Trojan Dental Family. The platform, called [Ostrow Connect](#), works a little like Facebook or Instagram, with a news feed where users can share information pertinent to the dental community. It goes a little further, though, offering users a job board, where employers can post career opportunities; a mentoring functionality where mentors/mentees can develop networking relationships; events listings; and group pages for our many alumni, student and specialty groups. It's a terrific tool, and I really can't think of a better time to roll this out than now, providing us the sense of community we need during the coronavirus pandemic. Next week, for Homecoming, there will be a number of photo contests, alumni spotlights and events centered around Ostrow Connect, so if you haven't signed up yet, now's the perfect time. You can either go to

ostrowconnect.usc.edu, or download the mobile app from [Google Play](#) or [Apple's App Store](#).

I hope you and your loved ones have a happy (and safe) Halloween. As always, stay healthy and Fight On!

Avishai

Avishai Sadan, DMD, MBA

Dean

G. Donald and Marian James Montgomery

Professor of Dentistry

[Coronavirus \(Covid-19\) Updates](#)



Copyright © 2020 Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

925 W. 34th Street DEN 202

Los Angeles, CA 90089

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)